

sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system, as recited in claim 1. See Office action of August 9, 2005 at page 3, lines 1-4. For this teaching, the Office action relies on Kumar. See Office action of August 9, 2005 at page 3, line 10 to page 4, line 8.

In response to applicant's position that neither MacNaughton, Kumar, nor any combination of the references describes or suggests the subject matter of independent claim 1, the Office action argues that Kumar discloses the recited automatic initiation of one or more additional communication sessions in Figures 1 and 2. In particular, the Office action indicates that the claimed host system corresponds to the portal system hosted by ISP 15 in Kumar's Figure 1, and that the additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system corresponds to the accounts identified by the Office action as "mybank account, mystocks account, myshopping account, mortgage account." See Office action of August 9, 2005 at page 13, line 19 to page 14, line 5. Notably, the Office action indicates that Kumar, in Figure 2, discloses that these same additional accounts (mybank account, mystocks account, myshopping account, and mortgage account) are shown in Figure 2 as residing on additional web sites, including "additional web sites like mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, mortgage.com, etc." Compare Office action of August 9, 2005 at page 14, lines 2-3 with page 14, lines 4-5. As such, the Office action seems to concede that the user accounts reside on additional web sites, not on the ISP system.

In any case, Kumar does not describe or suggest, either in Figures 1 and 2 or elsewhere, automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system. Kumar's Figure 2 "is an illustration of a personalized portal page as may be seen on a display monitor." See Kumar at col. 7, lines 16-21. Figure 2 itself identifies mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, and mortgage.com as server names and describes the list of servers as exemplary destinations. See Kumar at col. 7, lines 26-29. As such, the list of server names in Figure 2 of Kumar discloses possible Internet servers that may be accessed and does not disclose additional communication sessions or additional user accounts maintained on the ISP system 15. Moreover, Figure 2 also shows a list of user names and a list of passwords, where each user name and password pair is shown to correspond to a listed server,

and is used to gain access to the identified server. See Kumar at col. 7, lines 39-50. Kumar further discloses that each listing in Figure 2 may be a hyperlink to invoke the web page on the identified server. See Kumar at col. 7, lines 42-50. As such, Kumar's Figure 2 discloses a personalized portal page that enables a user to access an Internet server destination. Hence, Kumar's Figure 2 shows an alternative (i.e., a manual alternative) to automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system.

According to Kumar, mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, and mortgage.com are destinations such as Internet servers or web pages stored on Internet servers. See Kumar at col. 7, lines 26-29 and 35-39. Significantly, these destinations are not maintained by the portal system hosted by the ISP 15. See Kumar at col. 7, lines 26-29 and 35-39. In other words, mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, and mortgage.com are not maintained by the ISP system but rather are "destinations on such as servers 23, 25, and 27 of FIG. 1." Moreover, Kumar discloses that Internet servers 23, 25 and 27 "are hosted by various enterprises and subscribed to by a user," and, as such, are external to the ISP server 15. See Kumar at col. 6, lines 52-55. Notably, Kumar discloses that all of the Internet servers 23, 25 and 27 "are secure servers requiring user ID and password for access." See Kumar at col. 6, lines 60-62. As such, Kumar discloses that the Internet servers 23, 25 and 27 maintain user accounts. Thus, Kumar does not describe or suggest that user accounts on the web sites mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, and mortgage.com are maintained by the ISP system 15.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons and the reasons noted in the applicant's previous replies, Kumar does not describe or suggest initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system, as recited in claim 1.

In response to applicant's reply, the Office action also seems to indicate that Kumar discloses automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions in columns 2, 6-7, 12 and 21. See Office action of August 9, 2005 at page 14, line 6 to page 15, line 2. More particularly, the Office action indicates that "Kumar discloses that the application lists the user's URL's in the form of hyperlinks such that a user may click on a hyperlink and navigate to the page wherein log-in, if required, is automatic,

and transparent to the user.” Office Action of August 9, 2005 at page 14 (emphasis added); see also Kumar col. 2, lines 30-37. The Office action further indicates that “Kumar also discloses when a user invokes a hyperlink from his personal list, software 35 uses the subscriber’s personal information to provide an automatic and transparent log-in function for the subscriber while jumping the subscriber to the subject destination.” Office Action of August 9, 2005 at page 14, lines 6-12 (emphasis added); see also, Kumar at col. 12, lines 9-26. Assuming, for the sake of argument only and without conceding, that the transparent log-in function disclosed by Kumar allows the user of Kumar’s system to engage in a communication session, Kumar discloses that such a communication session is not automatically initiated. Instead, the user of Kumar must manually “navigate” to a destination such as mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, or mortgage.com by “click[ing] on” or “invok[ing]” a hyperlink. See Kumar col. 2, lines 30-37 and col. 12, lines 9-26.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons and the reasons noted in the applicant’s previous replies, Kumar does not describe or suggest automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system, as recited in claim 1.

Thus, Kumar fails to remedy MacNaughton’s failure to disclose automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system, as recited in independent claim 1. Applicant therefore submits that the Office action has not properly made a prima facie case of obviousness. For this reason, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-21 and 28-41.

Claims 22 and 27 recite features similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1, and do so in the context of a computer-readable medium (claim 22) and an apparatus (claim 27). Claims 2-21 and 23-26 depend from claims 1 or 22, respectively.

Accordingly, for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 22 and 27, as well as claims 23-26, which depend from claim 22.

Conclusion

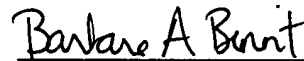
Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

No fee is believed due. Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 9, 2005



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